

FURBEARERS

According to Iowa Code 109.97, every fur dealer must report the number of raw furs purchased from Iowa trappers and hunters by May 15 of each year. Table 3.1 shows the number of raw furs purchased from the 1930-31 season through the present. This information gives a retrospective view of the status of various fur populations not only historically, but from year to year as well.

For example, the muskrat harvest data show that while muskrat harvests are cyclic, the harvests of the 30s are not much different from the 60s, 70s, and 80s. Drought cycles directly influenced muskrat populations and consequently harvest. During the droughts of the 30s, 50s and most recently 1988-89 and 1989-90 muskrat harvests were substantially reduced. The drought followed by extremely high water from 1990 through 1996, plus the reduced fur market are the main reasons why the last 8 years of harvest are the lowest since the 1960-61 season. The 1993-94 season did, however, see a 32 percent increase in the muskrat harvest while historically, the harvest was still low. The mere abundance of muskrats still allowed for this substantial increase in harvest. Because of the muskrat's prolific reproductive capability, populations responded quickly as adequate water conditions returned. In fact, 1993 brought modern day record muskrat populations back to the majority of Iowa's marshes. In 1997, after an extended high water period, "exploding" muskrat populations, and thus emergent vegetation disappeared due to muskrat "eat outs", the population has rapidly declined. In fact muskrats continue at modern day record low levels throughout most of the marsh country.

Extended natural droughts and/or managed water level drawdowns will allow marshes to revegetate and muskrats to increase accordingly.

Mink harvests were higher in the 30s and 40s then remained somewhat lower in the 50s and 60s with the 1986-87 harvest similar to the 30s once again. Low numbers for both species in 1939 reflect statewide season closure except for the Mississippi River. A similar situation occurred for muskrats in 1947. The 1989-90 through 1991-92 mink harvest was substantially reduced due to overall lower fur values and consequently less trapper effort. During 1994-95, mink harvest increased primarily because of the fact that fur value speculation increased trapping pressure on mink because muskrats populations were so low. Recent mink harvest trends generally show declines, likely due to overall reduced trapping effort that is occurring with most furbearer species, and especially the muskrat.

Raccoons have been an interesting species with comparatively low harvests until 1967 and then noticeably increased harvests through 1986-87 when a record 390,800 raccoon were taken (Fig. 3.1). A quarter million raccoons were harvested annually for 15 years (1973-1987) and yet the population remained very high. It is likely that the high raccoon harvest has kept raccoon populations at very healthy levels. Since 1989 the raccoon harvest has leveled off at near 100,000 pelts. This also is indicative of the suppressed raccoon fur values of the past several years. However, renewed interest and increasing pelt values were responsible for a slow increase in raccoon harvest in the late 1990s, with the 2001-02 harvest

approaching 1.5 raccoon pelts.

Spotted skunk (civet cat) harvest levels indicate that their numbers dropped off substantially before the season was closed in the mid-1970s. During recent years the DNR has not received more than 1 or 2 spotted skunk reports. Since 1992 the only recent spotted skunk report the DNR has received is a roadkill in 2001 in Ringgold County. Spotted skunks should at least be considered a threatened, if not, endangered species, and perhaps even extirpated.

Red fox harvests have increased significantly since the mid-1960s, stabilizing between 12,000 and 20,000 fox pelts over the past couple of decades. The red fox population is making a very slow comeback in the modern day traditional fox areas of northwest and north-central Iowa. Active fox dens, however, are a rarity compared to the 1970s and 1980s. An outbreak of mange in the early 1980s and the suppressed fur market greatly reduced the fox population as well as the harvest during the past 6 seasons.

Similar trends occurred with coyotes, with harvest figures ranging between 6,000 and 12,000 pelts. Nearly 10,300 coyote pelts were purchased during the 1992-93 fur season. That is not a record coyote harvest, but is double the previous season. The 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 seasons showed a decrease in the coyote harvest, but the population remains high statewide. The late 1990s harvest remained fairly stable.

Beaver seasons were closed in the 1930s and early 1940s. They reopened in the mid-1940s on a restricted basis and harvest has increased in the past decade to between 6,000 and 17,000 hides. About 50 percent fewer beaver were purchased from Iowa dealers during the 1991-92 season as compared to 1987-88. There has been a somewhat increasing beaver

market for the past few years but the hard work and difficult weather conditions for trapping keep the beaver harvest relatively low. Increasing interest in beaver fur did bring a noticeable increase in pelts purchased in 1992, but that increase was supplemented by beaver hides that were kept frozen from previous years and dumped on the market in hopes of capitalizing on a higher beaver pelt prices. The 1993 and 1994 beaver take decreased about 25 percent and it declined somewhat more in 1995. The beaver population is high and they continue to generate more complaints from landowners over beaver flooding and foraging on crops and blocking tiles.

Several factors need to be considered when reviewing these data. Water levels certainly affect the harvest of aquatic furbearers such as muskrats and beaver. Freeze-up and season opening dates also have some effect. Higher fur values usually mean higher harvest levels. Weather greatly impacts the harvest of many furbearing animals such as raccoon, fox, and coyotes. Mild weather and open winters are generally better for all trappers and coon hunters. Fox and coyote hunters harvest more animals when cold, snowy weather exists. Very notable to the entire furbearer season in 2000-2001 was the fact that cold weather froze marshes earlier and record cold and snows made this season one of the most difficult ever for fur pursuing enthusiasts. Weather conditions did, in fact, reduce the harvest of most furbearer species in 2000-2001. During 2001-2002 season weather conditions were nearly the opposite of the previous winter. These warm, mild, and comparatively dry conditions were conducive to better harvests of several species. With the exception of the spotted skunk and perhaps weasel, these harvest data and other qualitative information

indicate that most furbearers have adapted well to the changing environment that humans have created.

Because of the squabbles and debates that occur between hunters and trappers over their "rightful share" of the resource, the DNR in 1975 began asking fur buyers to estimate the percent of foxes, coyotes and raccoons taken by hunters versus that taken by trappers. The DNR believes the information is helpful in determining the impact of hunters and trappers on furbearer populations. The breakdown by year is shown in Table 3.2. Fox hunters historically have had greater impacts on the population in years when snow conditions make "spotting" foxes easier, while in mild open winters trappers do better. Because there are considerably more fox hunters than fox trappers, in years with more snowfall, hunters have a greater impact on the fox population than trappers. Cold and snowy weather favors the fox and coyote hunters and dry mild winter's favor trapping enthusiasts. An extensive outbreak of mange in foxes throughout the northern half of the state has greatly reduced fox numbers, and has also contributed to reduced fox harvest during the decade of the 90s and the early 2000s.

Mild open winters benefit both raccoon hunters and trappers, again because raccoon hunters outnumber raccoon trappers, they have the higher impact on the population. With the advent of the furharvester license, in 1986 it is likely that the demarcation between hunter and trapper harvests will become less distinct as one license allows them to pursue both activities.

Coyote hunters take substantially more coyotes than trappers, but this relates to the fact that there are considerably more coyote hunters than coyote trappers. Also, coyotes are

certainly more difficult to trap than foxes and raccoons, thus the generally lower percentage of coyotes trapped each year as compared to those hunted. This is supported by the information on Table 3.2.

In 1978 the Iowa DNR initiated a Raccoon and Deer Spotlight Survey in an effort to establish population trend index for raccoon and deer. Table 3.3 shows the results of the survey through 1998. Based on the mean number of raccoons observed per route it appears that the raccoon population has fluctuated considerably (Fig. 3.2). Low harvests appear associated with increased raccoons observed per route the subsequent spring. The spotlight survey index of the 1990's have been the highest ever recorded since the survey began in 1978. Reduced raccoon harvest since 1987 is most likely the major reason for the record high population of recent years.

The raccoon harvest accounts for nearly 60 percent of the total fur value (Table 3.4). A record harvest of 390,000 raccoons occurred during the 1986-87 season, but, by 1989-90, over a quarter of a million less raccoons have been harvested. During the last 3 years of the 1990s the raccoon market has softened considerably and this will likely reduce pressure on the raccoon population. However, since 2000 raccoon fur values are showing some increase.

Historically, pelt prices of mink peaked in the mid-1940s and have fluctuated since then between about \$10 and \$20 (Fig. 3.4). Red fox prices peaked in the late 1970s at about \$65. Iowa's total fur value reached a record \$15.5 million in 1979. During the past 6 years between \$1 and \$1.8 million of fur pelts have been harvested. Historical season dates are presented in Table 3.5

The European Union, EU

(formerly called the European Economic Community, EEC) has threatened to discontinue the importation of furs from countries still allowing the use of leg-hold/foot-hold traps. This has been scheduled to go into effect on January 1, 1995, 1996, and again in 1997. If this actually ever goes into effect it could mean the collapse of the U.S. commercial fur harvest and trade, as we currently know it. Oriental countries such Korea and China are trying to develop a fur economy/trade and that could considerably because currently the European countries account for over 75 percent of the U.S. fur market. International trade, tariff and governmental politics will determine what ultimately happens.

In late 1997, an “understanding” was reached with the European Union, the United States and other countries involved. The European markets would remain open to the U.S. fur trade. Over the next several years the U.S. would develop scientifically based best management practices (BMP’s) for trapping animals with restraining traps. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources, in cooperation with 3 local trappers, was involved in testing 4 types of traps for raccoons in 1998. These were 1.5 coil spring with offset jaws, the #11 longspring, the #11 longspring with offset

jaws, and the Tomahawk cage trap. Ohio, Wisconsin and Missouri did the same trap tests in their states.

Some controversies are now developing between the furharvester ranks and the Fur Resources Technical Committee of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Some of the most used traps of the past (particularly the 1 ½ coil spring trap) have not scored well under the BMP process, particularly for trapping raccoons. The self-mutilation of raccoons chewing their foot or leg when in certain foothold traps present challenges for trappers and the type of trapping systems they use. More information and research will have to occur before we can finalize the BMPs for raccoons. The BMP draft for trapping coyotes in the Eastern United States is currently being reviewed by professionals as well as the trapping public. Reception to that BMP has predominately been favorable.

While the “understanding” with the European Union is not a binding agreement, we see it as a victory for the continued legitimate use of the leg/foot hold trap into the 21st century. Hopefully the BMP process will also help us improve restraining foothold traps to allow their continued use long into the future.



Table 3.1 Furbearer harvest in Iowa listed by species (1930-present). Data for each year includes harvest for the winter of the succeeding year, eg. 1930=1930+1931(winter).

Year	Muskrat	Mink	Skunk	Raccoon	Civet	Red Fox	Gray Fox	Opossum	Weasel	Coyote	Badger	Beaver
1930	381,651	36,842	99,321	11,740	55,938	2,550	182	26,230	2,018		75	
1931	293,294	33,780	87,701	12,951	52,022	3,723	208	37,558	801	3	56	
1932	181,038	25,303	41,511	10,468	29,505	2,755	35	42,415	256	1	17	
1933	380,275	47,119	108,776	15,447	88,532	6,807	486	83,625	1,468		227	
1934	113,889	21,755	75,900	14,719	46,676	5,065	417	54,025	1,149		207	
1935	351,968	31,613	68,231	19,353	35,767	6,218		39,961	3,602		611	
1936	212,332	32,337	153,497	15,037	38,724	9,133	170	20,985	7,190	22	768	
1937	176,759	21,438	102,212	13,287	26,928	7,111	1,846	11,755	4,159	146	569	
1938	308,015	27,783	124,322	15,014	43,971	7,403	1,900	23,303	4,529	162	412	
1939	46,003	2,877	91,838	16,465	56,708	5,706	1,413	39,050	6,692	183	486	
1940	350,700	38,817	74,251	19,756	63,256	6,505	1,730	30,131	6,290	259	470	
1941	262,007	33,650	68,840	22,512	60,944	6,137	1,967	33,839	4,440	202	586	
1942	262,562	23,297	32,437	20,128	38,508	6,560	1,823	29,691	2,982	209	287	
1943	722,360	52,760	53,199	38,303	60,238	8,695	2,516	35,579	3,966	926	538	235
1944	457,573	47,040	35,737	36,803	41,235	9,785	2,332	27,513	2,905	388	354	259
1945	418,417	48,145	30,755	41,084	44,827	11,554	2,350	22,501	3,607	388	314	623
1946	387,614	60,397	32,458	61,880	40,661	12,259	2,223	26,960	4,334	915	553	494
1947	17,059	27,638	11,903	55,601	13,944	8,963						
1948	164,736	16,571	9,712	61,419	7,815	6,015	192	7,563	881	265	182	670
1949	171,820	17,973	6,136	58,527	4,532	4,826	983	6,681	433	57	136	2,489
1950	117,051	17,007	4,270	56,075	3,321	5,618	917	4,090	509	131	90	3,103
1951	67,211	23,257	2,558	67,211	1,842	3,703	443	2,600	412	34	81	2,465
1952	62,356	27,222	2,730	62,356	2,143	3,313	420	2,632	584	34	67	3,790
1953	335,451	30,459	4,511	79,939	1,892	2,573	399	3,203	470	17	82	6,565
1954	143,886	20,051	2,278	49,592	1,122	1,679	196	1,758	229	45	63	3,635
1955	80,414	10,548	2,677	50,849	1,480	1,678	156	1,774	304	6	57	4,336
1956	79,109	9,706	3,219	58,944	1,888	1,892	183	2,062	263	24	153	2,874
1957	65,969	9,838	2,690	48,134	1,778	1,389	90	1,494	149	9	47	1,938
1958	130,668	13,308	1,988	29,361	1,710	1,147	132	953	181	6	58	2,289
1959	164,485	16,942	1,789	59,814	1,171	4,162	262	2,065	113	61	77	2,980
1960	144,119	10,033	2,044	45,279	1,475	6,952	232	1,701	183	97	162	4,519
1961	351,822	16,365	1,307	49,659	918	5,486	223	1,979	89	113	317	4,790
1962	467,985	14,312	1,817	64,250	1,182	6,261	356	2,339	93	92	121	4,269
1963	555,055	21,032	1,940	77,428	1,835	6,610	232	3,052	203	61	99	9,294
1964	259,908	14,394	443	64,936	1,446	6,194	143	2,600	172	340	106	4,326
1965	261,459	13,105	1,097	80,801	1,121	10,853	303	3,559	52	732	147	4,273
1966	389,242	16,269	1,349	85,563	764	13,072	441	4,654	85	864	212	8,991
1967	231,811	13,509	830	77,435	376	10,195	393	2,331	66	512	201	7,334
1968	232,133	12,974	1,290	128,228	308	27,661	729	6,413	47	4,922	287	5,221
1969	306,967	12,616	1,146	137,453	197	17,993	702	5,891	48	3,678	502	4,905
1970	345,538	11,110	700	94,174	113	15,725	503	3,721	41	4,430	446	4,073
1971	449,442	15,855	756	131,247	109	14,978	780	6,157	22	5,240	373	7,138
1972	399,021	17,093	1,579	173,162	131	18,281	722	10,849	40	5,616	551	4,527
1973	638,317	23,269	2,779	255,212	188	24,145	1,624	26,947	52	8,713	1,121	5,834
1974	465,488	22,517	3,935	275,518	280	17,829	1,682	38,844	71	12,020	1,438	5,556
1975	386,679	18,406	1,937	292,064	106	15,838	1,574	26,485	50	9,444	1,267	5,154
1976	252,754	15,956	5,441	264,819	46	22,699	1,795	36,493	4	12,226	2,136	7,773

Table 3.1 Furbearer harvest in Iowa listed by species (1930-present). Data for each year includes harvest for the winter of the succeeding year, eg. 1930=1930+1931(winter).

Year	Muskrat	Mink	Skunk	Raccoon	Civet	Red Fox	Gray Fox	Opossum	Weasel	Coyote	Badger	Beaver
1977	257,237	13,037	3,588	264,367	7	22,831	1,640	36,186	36	12,011	1,900	3,432
1978	467,721	23,277	6,545	251,985		24,348	2,115	26,160	82	10,627	1,936	4,327
1979	741,403	31,270	10,022	308,277		17,629	3,093	10,978	122	7,745	3,274	12,498
1980	739,419	32,950	5,616	235,717		20,602	2,175	11,664	32	6,847	2,427	11,831
1981	521,945	28,455	1,913	291,227		22,385	1,710	18,730	16	9,860	1,946	5,705
1982	428,252	21,307	1,194	255,926		18,527	1,953	16,761	16	8,930	1,754	5,809
1983	464,793	22,245	1,152	261,875		21,257	1,185	16,179		9,636	1,298	8,563
1984	372,466	28,346	1,032	334,179		18,916	1,896	21,455		7,809	1,754	16,323
1985	254,412	17,116	1,861	270,805		16,346	1,114	16,296		7,858	975	14,931
1986	482,811	31,139	2,540	390,773		19,740	1,593	30,760		10,582	2,520	17,778
1987	515,611	27,712	1,198	307,587		19,666	1,091	27,623		10,348	1,642	13,509
1988	192,214	13,996	712	190,556		15,445	769	19,824		4,650	1,043	18,459
1989	73,415	8,293	245	118,653		13,359	374	8,114		4,073	468	8,706
1990	70,133	7,363	189	103,468		14,268	393	6,243		5,068	503	9,246
1991	91,206	8,469	211	110,342		15,463	429	7,411		5,213	572	8,943
1992	124,638	12,839	791	110,203		14,660	1,036	8,192		10,286	621	15,839
1993	163,842	13,946	643	118,463		12,986	836	6,243		7,313	571	11,788
1994	178,683	11,819	510	112,686		12,243	789	6,782		6,986	502	11,643
1995	158,241	20,392	786	118,136		14,136	948	9,781		8,462	614	10,678
1996	123,460	18,946	693	123,698		12,402	721	7,643		7,159	832	10,481
1997	113,621	16,832	649	149,492		12,896	768	6,012		6,992	796	11,122
1998	90,126	16,461	536	106,641		11,646	681	5,123		5,786	642	10,336
1999	86,998	15,931	528	101,233		11,968	631	4,649		5,231	597	10,108
2000	84,972	15,235	469	94,989		11,103	576	3,922		5,348	506	10,478
2001	78,867	14,162	398	143,206		12,349	529	3,361		6,702	487	11,287

Table 3.2 Percentage of foxes, raccoons and coyotes purchased from hunters and trappers determined from furbuyer reports (1975-present). Data for each year includes harvest from the succeeding year, eg. 1930=1930+1931(winter).

Year	Fox			Raccoon			Coyote		
	% by trapper	% by hunter	% by unknown	% by trapper	% by hunter	% by unknown	% by trapper	% by hunter	% by unknown
1975	45	48	7	28	60	12	18	72	10
1976	55	41	4	28	66	6	28	68	4
1977	36	55	9	24	68	8	18	72	10
1978	37	58	5	31	61	8	17	74	9
1979	53	32	15	30	58	12	30	59	11
1980	66	29	5	33	60	7	33	60	7
1981	38	46	16	42	46	12	20	74	6
1982	47	45	8	35	53	12	25	69	6
1983	33	59	8	37	50	13	17	67	16
1984	49	31	20	33	41	26	26	60	14
1985	39	54	7	37	52	11	23	65	12
1986	59	35	6	46	49	5	34	62	4
1987	53	43	4	49	47	4	32	62	6
1988	58	34	8	49	46	5	30	67	3
1989	48	28	24	35	45	20	24	61	15
1990	43	46	11	38	55	7	28	66	6
1991	44	49	7	41	51	8	25	67	8
1992	40	52	8	45	50	5	36	54	6
1993	43	50	7	43	52	5	34	57	9
1994	39	55	6	44	46	10	33	59	8
1995	41	52	7	47	45	8	30	65	5
1996	44	48	8	48	48	4	32	58	10
1997	40	47	13	48	46	5	29	62	9
1998	46	48	6	46	47	5	33	63	4
1999	45	46	9	42	53	5	34	61	5
2000	34	58	8	38	46	16	31	58	11
2001	52	43	5	43	47	10	36	56	8
Average	45.4	45.6	8.9	39.3	51.4	9.2	28.0	63.6	8.2

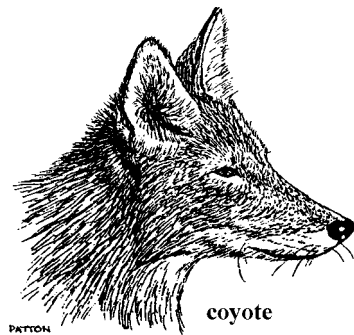


Table 3.3 Results of the Iowa raccoon spotlight survey with raccoon harvest and pelt price (1978-present). The spotlight survey is conducted in April each year. Harvest is from previous year.

Year	# Routes	Raccoon harvest	Mean # observed	Pelt Prices
1978	57	264,367	10.3	22.27
1979	83	251,985	11.2	31.18
1980	82	308,277	8.2	29.97
1981	85	235,717	8.9	21.47
1982	85	291,227	10.4	27.69
1983	84	255,926	12.8	16.54
1984	82	261,875	12.9	14.23
1985	84	334,179	11.5	18.94
1986	83	270,805	10.5	13.91
1987	80	390,773	11.3	18.22
1988	79	307,587	12.0	16.65
1989	83	190,556	14.8	7.96
1990	84	118,653	17.0	4.74
1991	86	103,468	16.7	4.62
1992	84	110,342	18.2	4.96
1993	82	110,203	21.5	5.36
1994	84	118,463	20.8	5.81
1995	89	112,686	21.1	6.89
1996	87	118,136	24.4	6.83
1997	89	123,698	23.5	8.26
1998	88	149,492	21.9	7.79
1999	88	106,641	23.3	7.21
2000	88	101,233	22.3	8.13
2001	88	94,989	24.3	9.26
2002	88	143,206	20.7	11.69



Table 3.4 Value of important furbearer species taken in Iowa (1930-present). Data for each year includes harvest from the winter of the succeeding year, e.g. 1930 = 1930 & 1931 (winter).

	Mink		Muskrat		Raccoon		Red Fox		All Species
	Mean Price	Total Value	Mean Price	Total Value	Mean Price	Total Value	Mean Price	Total Value	Total Value
1930	3.50	128,947	0.42	160,293	4.50	52,830	6.85	17,467	534,409
1931	3.60	121,608	0.52	152,512	4.40	56,984	4.50	16,753	497,260
1932	3.00	75,909	0.30	54,311	2.60	27,216	3.25	8,953	213,186
1933	4.40	207,323	0.52	197,743	3.45	53,292	4.50	30,631	615,688
1934	4.40	95,810	0.70	79,722	3.50	51,516	4.00	20,260	348,843
1935	5.93	187,465	0.98	344,928	3.95	76,444	2.95	18,343	723,451
1936	9.00	291,033	1.25	265,440	4.00	60,148	3.00	27,399	842,666
1937	5.60	120,052	0.60	106,055	3.65	48,497	3.00	21,333	412,361
1938	7.25	201,426	0.75	231,011	2.80	42,039	3.50	25,910	723,099
1939	6.25	17,981	1.05	48,303	2.45	40,339	2.50	14,265	277,519
1940	7.30	283,364	1.21	424,347	3.71	73,294	2.70	17,563	979,482
1941	6.75	227,137	1.32	345,849	4.90	110,308	4.50	27,616	903,874
1942	6.15	143,276	1.47	385,966	3.65	73,467	5.40	35,424	741,621
1943	12.50	659,500	2.25	1,625,310	3.25	277,696	10.00	86,950	2,961,462
1944	6.75	317,520	1.32	603,966	4.90	180,334	4.50	44,032	1,267,151
1945	28.16	1,355,763	2.18	912,149	2.89	118,732	3.95	45,638	2,630,655
1946	18.14	1,095,601	1.71	622,819	1.97	121,903	2.03	24,885	2,003,965
1947	29.73	821,677	2.40	40,941	2.61	145,118	1.26	11,293	1,018,093
1948	18.30	303,249	1.62	266,872	2.23	136,964	0.88	5,293	737,577
1949	12.15	218,371	1.38	237,371	1.95	114,127	0.60	2,895	611,352
1950	23.50	399,664	1.81	211,862	2.95	165,421	0.75	4,213	828,250
1951	17.48	406,532	1.37	361,081	2.67	179,453	0.39	1,444	972,134
1952	16.40	446,440	1.13	444,587	1.72	107,252	0.42	1,391	1,026,952
1953	13.49	380,891	0.69	231,461	1.57	125,504	0.36	926	773,398
1954	17.59	352,697	0.93	133,813	1.71	84,802	0.36	604	594,635
1955	18.03	190,180	1.11	98,259	2.81	142,885	0.24	402	458,230
1956	15.09	146,463	0.83	65,657	1.81	106,688	0.20	378	339,464
1957	12.50	122,975	0.75	49,476	1.15	55,354	0.25	347	251,660
1958	14.31	190,437	0.77	100,614	1.78	52,262	0.51	584	363,240
1959	16.63	281,745	0.83	136,500	2.82	168,675	1.43	5,951	621,201
1960	10.38	104,142	0.61	87,912	1.96	88,746	1.24	8,620	327,976
1961	10.20	166,923	0.58	204,056	2.31	114,712	1.36	7,460	527,389
1962	11.08	158,576	0.83	388,427	2.42	155,485	1.81	11,332	743,506
1963	10.90	229,248	1.17	649,414	1.44	111,496	1.86	12,294	1,069,812
1964	8.73	125,659	1.02	265,106	1.51	98,053	1.84	11,396	536,544
1965	7.83	102,612	1.32	345,244	2.47	199,578	5.80	62,947	753,832
1966	7.84	127,548	0.98	381,457	2.17	185,671	3.02	39,477	815,957
1967	8.08	109,152	0.70	162,267	2.63	203,654	4.12	42,003	600,422
1968	11.44	148,422	0.92	213,562	4.62	592,413	10.39	287,397	1,355,639
1969	7.06	89,068	1.15	353,012	3.43	471,463	5.86	105,448	1,090,212
1970	4.93	54,772	0.88	311,993	2.35	211,308	6.05	95,136	736,023
1971	7.86	124,620	1.37	615,735	5.20	682,484	10.59	158,617	1,700,782
1972	13.50	230,755	2.05	817,993	8.50	1,471,877	21.87	399,805	3,061,442
1973	11.35	264,103	2.25	1,436,213	9.80	2,501,077	26.95	650,707	5,083,978
1974	8.67	195,222	2.40	1,117,171	10.60	2,920,490	19.56	348,735	4,818,166
1975	9.65	177,617	2.85	1,102,035	17.85	5,213,342	39.88	631,619	7,390,136
1976	14.06	224,341	4.31	1,089,369	22.51	5,961,075	46.33	1,051,644	8,976,168

Table 3.4 Value of important furbearer species taken in Iowa (1930-present). Data for each year includes harvest from the winter of the succeeding year, e.g. 1930 = 1930 & 1931 (winter).

	Mink		Muskrat		Raccoon		Red Fox		All Species
	Mean Price	Total Value	Mean Price	Total Value	Mean Price	Total Value	Mean Price	Total Value	Total Value
1977	12.44	162,180	4.77	1,227,020	22.27	5,887,453	49.53	1,130,819	8,871,156
1978	14.48	337,050	4.49	2,100,067	31.18	7,856,892	64.65	1,574,098	12,516,946
1979	19.04	595,380	5.64	4,181,512	29.97	9,239,061	48.71	858,708	15,499,322
1980	18.20	599,690	5.88	4,347,783	21.47	5,060,843	42.88	883,413	11,269,768
1981	17.99	511,905	3.84	2,004,268	27.69	8,064,075	46.29	1,036,201	12,021,854
1982	11.18	238,212	2.18	933,589	16.54	4,233,016	28.85	534,503	6,235,053
1983	16.03	356,481	2.30	1,152,686	14.23	3,726,481	33.16	704,882	6,180,169
1984	14.22	403,080	2.88	1,072,702	18.94	6,329,350	25.24	477,439	8,574,748
1985	11.76	201,274	1.89	480,838	14.34	3,883,343	16.70	272,978	5,163,651
1986	20.79	647,379	3.39	1,636,729	18.22	7,119,884	20.73	409,210	10,335,629
1987	20.76	575,301	3.32	1,711,828	16.65	5,121,323	18.07	355,365	8,097,250
1988	22.06	308,751	2.05	394,038	7.96	1,516,825	12.15	187,656	2,602,695
1989	16.34	138,890	1.02	76,500	4.74	568,800	9.70	135,800	1,018,622
1990	18.26	134,448	2.08	145,876	4.96	513,201	10.22	145,898	1,074,761
1991	15.49	131,184	1.96	178,764	5.36	591,433	9.63	148,909	1,198,863
1992	19.46	249,846	1.58	196,928	6.36	700,891	8.43	123,078	1,579,821
1993	16.78	234,014	1.83	299,831	5.81	688,270	8.98	116,614	1,388,729
1994	14.13	167,003	1.95	348,432	6.89	706,686	9.86	120,716	1,409,848
1995	18.01	367,259	1.78	281,670	6.83	808,371	8.76	123,831	1,745,504
1996	19.36	336,795	1.56	182,598	8.92	1,103,386	8.43	104,549	1,661,687
1997	17.86	302,303	1.51	171,568	7.79	1,169,643	7.04	90,788	1,729,199
1998	16.05	264,199	1.66	149,609	7.21	768,882	8.21	95,637	1,203,362
1999	19.16	255,583	1.55	134,847	8.13	823,024	9.68	115,850	1,329,304
2000	15.46	235,533	2.09	177,591	9.26	879,598	9.86	109,476	1,378,689
2001	17.23	244,011	2.43	191,647	11.69	1,674,078	10.86	134,110	2,168,918

Table 3.5 Iowa's furbearer seasons

YEAR	SPECIES	OPENING START TIME	____TRAPPING____		____HUNTING____	
			SEASON DATES		SEASON DATES	
			OPENING	CLOSING	OPENING	CLOSING
1966-67	mi, mu	noon	Nov 12	Dec 31 *a		
	ra	noon	Nov 12	Feb 28	Oct 15	Feb 28
	be, ba, stsk, spsk, op	noon	Nov 12	Feb 28		
	rf, gf, co, we, wc,		cont open season		cont open season	
1967-68	mi, mu,	noon	Nov 10	Dec 31 *a		
	ra	noon	Nov 10	Dec 31	Oct 28	Feb 28
	be	noon	Dec 16	Feb 28		
	ba, stsk, spsk, op	noon	Nov 10	Feb 28		
	rf, gf, co, we, wc,		cont open season		cont open season	
1968-69	mi, mu	noon	Nov 9	Dec 31 *a		
	ra	noon	Nov 9	Feb 28	Oct 19	Feb 28
	ba, stsk, spsk, op	noon	Nov 9	Feb 28		
	be	noon	Dec 14	Feb 28		
	rf, gf, co, we, wc	noon	cont open season		cont open season	
1969-70	mi, mu	noon	Nov 15	Jan 11 *a		
	ra	noon	Nov 15	Feb 28		
	ba, stsk, spsk, op	noon	Nov 15	Feb 28		
	be	noon	unk	unk		
	rf, gf, co, we, wc	noon	cont open season			
1970-71	mi, mu					
	ra					
	ba, stsk, spsk, op					
	be					
	rf, gf,	6 a.m.			Sep 1	Feb 28
	co, we, wc		cont open season			
1971-72	mi, mu	6 a.m.	Nov 06	Dec 31 *d		
	ra	6 a.m.	Oct 30	Feb 13	Oct 30	Feb 13
	ba, sk, spsk, op, we	6 a.m.	Oct 30	Feb 13		
	be, zone 1 *b (trap only)	6 a.m.	Nov 06	Feb 29		
	be, zone 2 *b (trap only)	6 a.m.	Dec 11	Feb 29		
	rf, gf	6 a.m.	Oct 30	Feb 29	Sep 11	Feb 29
	wc				Sep 11	Dec 1
	co		cont open season		cont open season	
1972-73	mi, mu		Nov 11	Dec 31 *d		
	ra		Oct 28	Feb 15		
	ra, zone 1 *c (hunt only)	6 a.m.			Oct 14	Feb 15
	ra, zone 2 *c (hunt only)	6 a.m.			Oct 28	Feb 15
	ba, sk, spsk, op, we	6 a.m.	Oct 28	Feb 15		
	rf, gf	6 a.m.	Oct 28	Jan 31	Sep 09	Feb 15
	be, zone 1 *b (trap only)	6 a.m.	Nov 11	Feb 28		
	be, zone 2 *b (trap only)		Dec 16	Feb 28		
	wc	6 a.m.			Jun 15	Nov 30
	co		cont open season		cont open season	
	ot		cont closed seson		cont closed season	

Table 3.5 Iowa's furbearer seasons

YEAR	SPECIES	OPENING START TIME	____TRAPPING____		____HUNTING____	
			SEASON DATES		SEASON DATES	
			OPENING	CLOSING	OPENING	CLOSING
1973-74	mi, mu	6 a.m.	Nov 10	Dec 31 *d		
	be	6 a.m.	Nov 10	Apr 15		
	rf, gf	6 a.m.	Oct 27	Jan 31	Sep 1	Feb 15
	ra, ba, sk, spsk, op, we	6 a.m.	Oct 27	Feb 15	Oct 27	Feb 15
	ra, zone 1* (hunt only)				Oct 13	Feb 15
	ra, zone 2* (hunt only)				Oct 27	Feb 15
	ot		cont closed seson		cont closed season	
	wc				Jun 15	Nov 30
	co		cont open season		cont open season	
1974-75	mi, mu	6 a.m.	Nov 9	Dec 31 *d		
	be *e	6 a.m.	Nov 9	Apr 13		
	rf, gf	6 a.m.	Nov 2	Dec 31	Nov 2	Jan 31
	ra, ba, sk, spsk, op, we	6 a.m.	Nov 2	Jan 31		
	ra, zone 1 *c (hunt only)	6 a.m.			Oct 19	Jan 31
	ra, zone 2 *c (hunt only)	6 a.m.			Nov 2	Jan 31
	wc				June 15	Nov 30
	ot		cont closed seson		cont closed season	
	co		cont open season		cont open season	
1975-76	mi, mu	6 a.m.	Nov 8	Jan 7 *d		
	be *e	6 a.m.	Nov 8	Apr 11		
	rf, gf	6 a.m.	Nov 8	Nov 30	Nov 8	Jan 31
	ra ba, sk, ci, op, we	6 a.m.	Nov 8	Jan 31		
	ra				Oct 25	Jan 31
	wc				Jun 15	Nov 30
	ot		cont closed seson		cont closed season	
	co		cont open season		cont open season	
1976-77	mi, mu	6 a.m.	Nov 6	Dec 31 *d		
	be *e	6 a.m.	Nov 6	Apr 10		
	ra, ba, sk, op	6 a.m.	Nov 6	Jan 23		
	rf, gf	6 a.m.	Nov 20	Dec 19	Nov 20	Jan 30
	ra				Oct 30	Jan 23
	wc*				Jun 15	Oct 31
	spsk *f, ot, we *g		cont closed seson		cont closed season	
	co		cont open season		cont open season	
1977-78	mi, mu	6 a.m.	Nov 5	Dec 31 *d		
	be *e	6 a.m.	Nov 5	Mar 26		
	rf, gf	6 a.m.	Nov 26	Jan 22	Nov 26	Jan 22
	ra, ba, sk, op, we	6 a.m.	Oct 29	Jan 22		
	ra, op*				Oct 29	Jan 22
	wc				June 15	Oct 31
	spsk, ot		cont closed seson		cont closed season	
	co		cont open season		cont open season	

Table 3.5 Iowa's furbearer seasons

		____TRAPPING____			____HUNTING____	
		OPENING	SEASON DATES		SEASON DATES	
YEAR	SPECIES	START TIME	OPENING	CLOSING	OPENING	CLOSING
1978-79	mi, mu	6 a.m.	Nov 4	Dec 31 *d		
	be *e	6 a.m.	Nov 4	Mar 25		
	rf, gf	6 a.m.	Nov 25	Jan 14	Nov 25	Jan 14
	ra, ba, sk, op, we	6 a.m.	Nov 4	Jan 7		
	ra, op				Nov 11	Jan 1
	wc				Jun 15	Oct 31
	spsk, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
	co		cont open season		cont open season	
Permits required to trap state wildlife management areas were discontinued during the 1978-79 seasons.						
1979-80	mi, mu, ra ba, sk, op, we	8 a.m.	Nov 3	Jan 6		
	be *e	8 a.m.	Nov 3	Mar 31		
	rf, gf	8 a.m.	Nov 17	Jan 13	Nov 17	Jan 13
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 3	Jan 6
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	spsk, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
	co		cont open season		cont open season	
	First year with 8:00 a.m. opening for trapping and hunting.					
1980-81	mi, mu, ra, ba, sk, op, we	8 a.m.	Nov 8	Jan 4		
	be *e	8 a.m.	Nov 8	Mar 29		
	rf, gf	8 a.m.	Nov 15	Jan 18	Nov 15	Jan 18
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 8	Jan 4
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	spsk, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
	co		cont open season		cont open season	
	1981-82	mi, mu, ra, ba, sk, op, we	8 a.m.	Nov 7	Jan 3	
be *e		8 a.m.	Nov 7	Mar 28		
rf, gf		8 a.m.	Nov 14	Jan 24	Nov 14	Jan 24
ra, op		8 a.m.			Nov 6	Jan 3
wc		8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
spsk, ot		8 a.m.	cont closed season		cont closed season	
co			cont open season		cont open season	
1982-83		mi, mu, ra, ba, sk, op, we	8 a.m.	Nov 6	Jan 2	
	be *e	8 a.m.	Nov 6	Mar 27		
	rf, gf	8 a.m.	Nov 13	Jan 23	Nov 13	Jan 3
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 6	Jan 2
	wc				Jun 15	Oct 31
	spsk, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
	co		cont open season		cont open season	

Table 3.5 Iowa's furbearer seasons

		____TRAPPING____			____HUNTING____	
		OPENING	SEASON DATES		SEASON DATES	
YEAR	SPECIES	START TIME	OPENING	CLOSING	OPENING	CLOSING
1983-84	mi, mu, ra, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 5	Jan 15		
	be *e	8 a.m.	Nov 5	Apr 15		
	rf, gf	8 a.m.	Nov 12	Jan 22	Nov 12	Jan 22
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 5	Jan 15
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	spsk, we, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
	co		cont open season		cont open season	
1984-85	mi, mu, ra, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 3	Jan 20		
	be *e	8 a.m.	Nov 3	Apr 14		
	rf, gf	8 a.m.	Nov 10	Jan 20	Nov 10	Jan 20
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 3	Jan 20
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	spsk, we, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
	co		cont open season		cont open season	
1985-86	mi, mu, ra, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 2	Jan 19		
	be *e	8 a.m.	Nov 2	Apr 13		
	rf, gf	8 a.m.	Nov 9	Jan 19	Nov 9	Jan 19
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 2	Jan 19
	wc				Jun 15	Oct 31
	spsk, bo *h, we, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
	co		cont open season		cont open season	
Spring rat season option.						
1986-87	mi, mu, ra, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 1	Jan 25		
	be *e	8 a.m.	Nov 1	Apr 12		
	rf, gf	8 a.m.	Nov 8	Jan 25	Nov 8	Jan 25
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 1	Jan 25
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	spsk, bc, we, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
	co		cont open season		cont open season	
1987-88	mi, mu, ra, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 7	Jan 24		
	be *e	8 a.m.	Nov 7	Apr 10		
	rf, gf	8 a.m.	Nov 7	Jan 24	Nov 7	Jan 24
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 7	Jan 24
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	co *j	8 a.m.	Nov 7	Jan 24	cont open season	
	spsk, bc, we, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
1988-89	mi, mu, ra, we, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 5	Jan 22		
	be	8 a.m.	Nov 5	Jan 22		
	rf, gf	8 a.m.	Nov 5	Jan 22		
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 5	Jan 22
	wc				Jun 15	Oct 31
	co	8 a.m.	Nov 5	Jan 22	cont open season	
	spsk, bc, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	

Table 3.5 Iowa's furbearer seasons

YEAR	SPECIES	OPENING START TIME	____TRAPPING____		____HUNTING____	
			SEASON DATES		SEASON DATES	
			OPENING	CLOSING	OPENING	CLOSING
1989-90	mi, mu, ra, we, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 4	Jan 21		
	be	8 a.m.	Nov 4	Apr 8		
	rf, gf	8 a.m..	Nov 4	Jan 21	Nov 4	Jan 21
	ra, op				Nov 4	Jan 21
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	co	8 a.m.	Nov 4	Jan 21	cont open season	
	spsk, bc, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
1990-91	mi, mu, ra, we, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 3	Jan 20		
	be	8 a.m.	Nov 3	Apr 7		
	rf, gf	8 a.m..	Nov 3	Jan 20	Nov 3	Jan 20
	ra, op				Nov 3	Jan 20
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	co	8 a.m.	Nov 3	Jan 20	cont open season	
	spsk, bc, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
1991-92	mi, mu, ra, we, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 2	Jan 26		
	be	8 a.m.	Nov 2	Apr 5		
	rf, gf	8 a.m..	Nov 2	Jan 26	Nov 2	Jan 26
	ra, op				Nov 2	Jan 26
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	co	8 a.m.	Nov 2	Jan 26	cont open season	
	spsk, bc, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
1992-93	mi, mu, ra, we, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 7	Jan 31		
	be	8 a.m.	Nov 7	Apr 4		
	rf, gr	8 a.m.			Nov 7	Jan 31
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 7	Jan 31
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	co	8 a.m.	Nov 7	Jan 31	cont open season	
	spsk, bc, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
1993-94	mi, mu, ra, we, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 6	Jan 31		
	be	8 a.m.	Nov 6	Apr 4		
	rf, gr	8 a.m.	Nov 6	Jan 31	Nov 6	Jan 31
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 6	Jan 31
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	co	8 a.m.	Nov 6	Jan 31	cont open season	
	spsk, bc, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
1994-95	mi, mu, ra, we, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 5	Jan 31		
	be	8 a.m.	Nov 5	Apr 15		
	rf, gr	8 a.m.	Nov 5	Jan 31	Nov 5	Jan 31
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 5	Jan 31
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	co	8 a.m.	Nov 5	Jan 31	cont open season	
	spsk, bc, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	

Table 3.5 Iowa's furbearer seasons

YEAR	SPECIES	OPENING START TIME	____TRAPPING____		____HUNTING____	
			SEASON DATES		SEASON DATES	
			OPENING	CLOSING	OPENING	CLOSING
1995-96	mi, mu, ra, we, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 4	Jan 31		
	be	8 a.m.	Nov 4	Apr 15		
	rf, gr	8 a.m.	Nov 4	Jan 31	Nov 4	Jan 31
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 4	Jan 31
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	co	8 a.m.	Nov 4	Jan 31	cont open season	
	spsk, bc, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
1996-97	mi, mu, ra, we, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 2	Jan 31		
	be	8 a.m.	Nov 2	Apr 15		
	rf, gr	8 a.m.	Nov 2	Jan 31	Nov 2	Jan 31
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 2	Jan 31
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	co	8 a.m.	Nov 2	Jan 31	cont open season	
	spsk, bc, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
1997-98	mi, mu, ra, we, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 1	Jan 31		
	be	8 a.m.	Nov 1	Apr 15		
	rf, gr	8 a.m.	Nov 1	Jan 31	Nov 2	Jan 31
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 2	Jan 31
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	co	8 a.m.	Nov 2	Jan 31	cont open season	
	spsk, bc, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
1998-99	mi, mu, ra, we, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 7	Jan 31		
	be	8 a.m.	Nov 7	Apr 15		
	rf, gr	8 a.m.	Nov 7	Jan 31	Nov 7	Jan 31
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 7	Jan 31
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	co	8 a.m.	Nov 7	Jan 31	cont open season	
	spsk, bc, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
1999-2000	mi, mu, ra, we, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 6	Jan 31		
	be	8 a.m.	Nov 6	Apr 15		
	rf, gr	8 a.m.	Nov 6	Jan 31	Nov 6	Jan 31
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 6	Jan 31
	wc	8 a.m.			Jun 15	Oct 31
	co	8 a.m.	Nov 6	Jan 31	cont open season	
	spsk, bc, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	

Table 3.5 Iowa's furbearer seasons

YEAR	SPECIES	OPENING START TIME	____TRAPPING____		____HUNTING____	
			SEASON DATES		SEASON DATES	
			OPENING	CLOSING	OPENING	CLOSING
2000-01	mi, mu, ra, we, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 4	Jan 31		
	be	8 a.m.	Nov 4	Jan 31		
	rf, gr	8 a.m.	Nov 4	Jan 31		
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 4	Jan 31
	wc	8 a.m.	Jun 15	Oct 31	Jun 15	Oct 31
	co	8 a.m.	Nov 3	Jan 31	cont open season	
	spsk, bc, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
2001-02	mi, mu, ra, we, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 3	Jan 31		
	be	8 a.m.	Nov 3	Jan 31		
	rf, gr	8 a.m.	Nov 3	Jan 31		
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 3	Jan 31
	wc	8 a.m.	Jun 15	Oct 31	Jun 15	Oct 31
	co	8 a.m.	Nov 3	Jan 31	cont open season	
	spsk, bc, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	
2002-03	mi, mu, ra, we, sk, ba, op	8 a.m.	Nov 2	Jan 31		
	be	8 a.m.	Nov 2	Jan 31		
	rf, gr	8 a.m.	Nov 2	Jan 31		
	ra, op	8 a.m.			Nov 2	Jan 31
	wc	8 a.m.	Jun 15	Oct 31	Jun 15	Oct 31
	co	8 a.m.	Nov 2	Jan 31	cont open season	
	spsk, bc, ot		cont closed season		cont closed season	

SPECIES ABBREVIATIONS: mi = mink, mu = muskrat, ra = raccoon, be = beaver, ba = badger

stsk = striped skunk, spsk = spotted skunk, op = opossum, rf = red fox, gf = gray fox

co = coyote, we = weasels, wc = woodchuck, ot = otter, bc = bobcat

*a) During 1966-67 through the 1970-71 seasons on state game management areas and the closed-to-hunting areas of Federal Refuges, the season will open at noon the day following the close of the duck season to 12:00 midnight Feb. 28.

*b) During 1971-72 and 1972-73 seasons, Zone 1A is bounded on the east by U.S. Highway 169 from the Minnesota border to its junction with U.S. Highway 20, west on Highway 20 Highway 59, and south on 59 to the Missouri Border. Zone 2A includes the remainder of the state.

*c) During 1972-73 through 1974-75 seasons, Zone 1b is north of U.S. Highway 20, the 2nd Saturday of October through February 15 in 1973 and 1974 and January 31 in 1975. Zone 2b is remainder of state.

*d) During 1971-72 through 1978-79 seasons except for beaver water sets were permitted only during the open mink and muskrat season.

*e) During 1974-75 through 1987-88 seasons a more restrictive beaver trapping season occurred on the Federal Upper Mississippi River Refuge north of Interstate 80.

*f) Weasel season was closed during 1976-77 season; reopened 1988-89 season.

*g) Spotted skunk season was continuous closed season from 1976-77 through the present.

*h) Bobcat season officially listed as closed in 1985-86 regulations, however, it was essentially protected in prior years.

*i) Permanent woodchuck hunting rule season dates of June 15 to October 31 established with 1976-77 season.

*j) First restricted coyote trapping season.

Figure 3.1 Iowa raccoon & red fox harvest, (1930 - present)

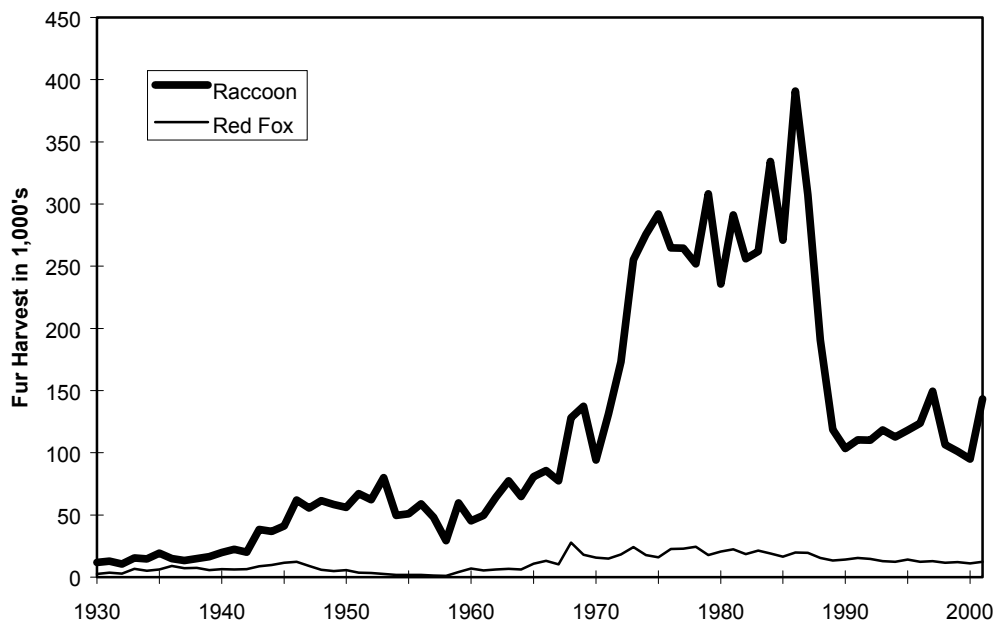


Figure 3.2 Relationship of the spotlight index and raccoon harvest.

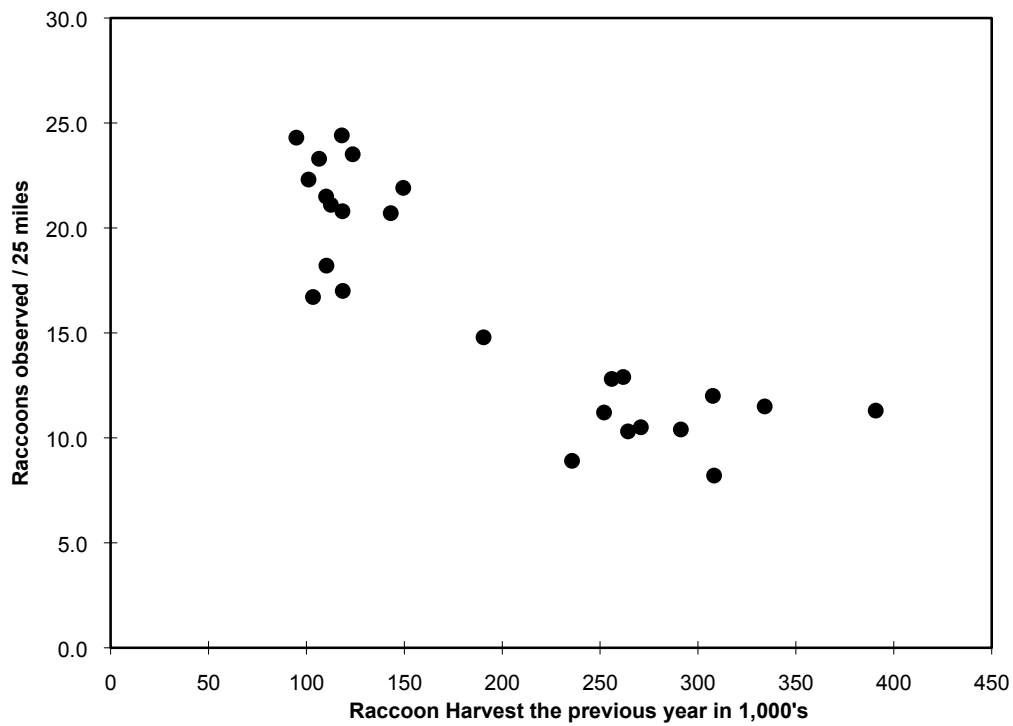


Figure 3.3 Pelt price fluctuations of important Iowa furbearers.

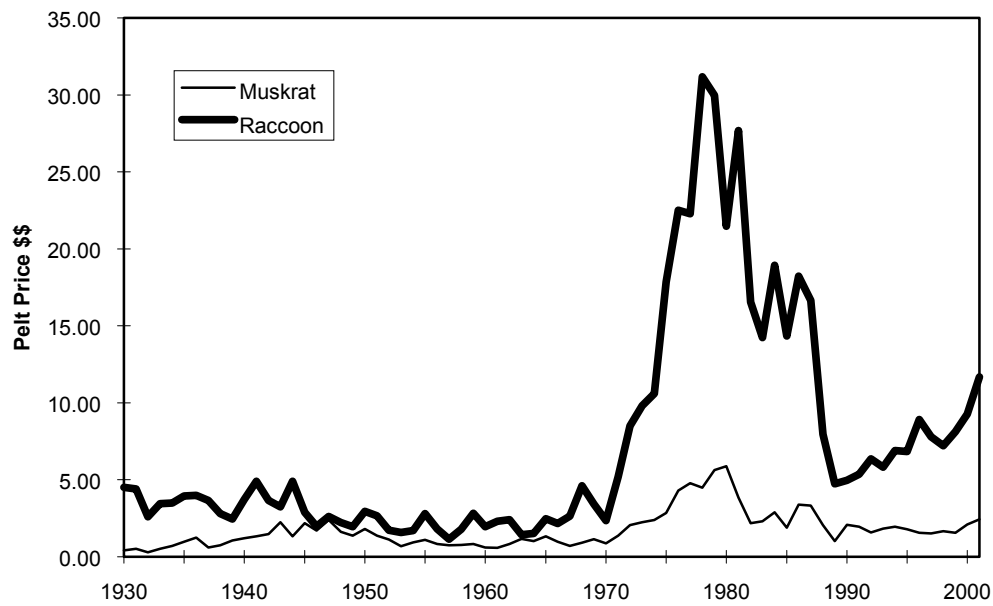


Figure 3.4 Pelt price fluctuations of mink and fox, and the value of Iowa furs.

